<u>Amendments of the Specification</u>

Please replace abstract Paragraph [0059] with the following amended abstract Paragraph [0059]:

[0059] An apparatus and method for assessing market conditions, or for analyzing of other parameters that appear to fluctuate randomly, compare the changing conditions to the changes that would be predicted by Brownian Motion. [[If]] <u>When</u> the changes exceed those predicted by Brownian Motion, a trend is considered to exist and can be expected to continue, ~~while if~~ <u>and when</u> the changes are less than those predicted by Brownian Motion, then a congestion condition exists. [[If]] <u>When</u> enough measurements are taken, ~~it may be possible to predict how long~~ <u>the length of</u> the trend or congestion ~~will last~~ <u>can be predicted</u>. ~~Preferably~~ <u>In one embodiment</u>, the computation necessary to analyze the data on the condition being monitored is distributed among computers of subscribers to [[the]] <u>a</u> monitoring service <u>based on the method</u>.